

TREATED SEED TAG/BAG STATEMENTS

Introduction

This document is part of the “Treated Seed Tag Initiative” discussions among CLA Seed Treatment Working Group (WG) and representatives of EPA and USDA.

The Treated Seed Tag Initiative has the objective to simplify and harmonize the required statements for treated seed tags or bags.

The CLA Seed Treatment WG proposes that the Treated Seed Tags/Bags contain the statements listed in Section A (a), (b) and (c) of this document.

A. STATEMENTS TO RETAIN ON SEED TAG/BAG:

a) General:

- This seed has been treated with **XXX** (name of active ingredients).
- Do not use treated seed for feed, food or oil purpose.
- Wear long-sleeved shirt, long pants, shoes, socks, and chemical-resistant gloves when handling treated seed.
- Treated seeds must be planted at a minimum depth of **X** inches.
- Treated at manufacturer’s recommended rate¹.
- Treated with “Poison”. ² (in red)
- “TREATED SEED”, plus signal word for category of treatment material³.

¹ State of Florida requirement

² State of Florida requirement

³ State of California requirement

b) Stewardship Statements:

- Storage and Seed Bag Disposal: Store treated seed away from food and feed, and do not allow access by children, pets, or livestock. Do not reuse or refill empty seed bags, and dispose of treated seed bags in accordance with local requirements.
- Do not contaminate bodies of water when disposing of excess treated seed or wash waters of planting equipment. Dispose of them in accordance with local requirements.
- Exposed treated seeds may be hazardous to wildlife. Cover or collect treated seeds spilled during loading and planting.

c) Compound-Specific Seed Tag Statements (as applicable):

- “Poison” (in red and > 8 points) and Skull Crossbones symbol for mercurials compounds⁴
- This compound is highly toxic to bees exposed directly (contact). Ensure that planting equipment is functioning properly in accordance with manufacturing recommendations to minimize seed coat abrasion during planting to reduce dust which can drift to blooming crops or weeds⁵.
- To reduce seed dust which can drift onto blooming crops or weeds, ensure that planting equipment is functioning properly in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations. Surplus seed or empty seed containers should be stored or disposed according to local federal regulations⁶.
- Grazing Restriction statement
- Plant Back Restriction statement

⁴ Federal Seed Act considers mercurial compounds as Toxicity Category I.

⁵ Consistent neonicotinoid-specific seed tag language to be vetted with Agency in near future

⁶ Ditto

B. STATEMENTS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

- Excess treated seed may be used for ethanol production only if:
 - (1) By-products are not used for livestock feed, and
 - (2) No measurable residues of pesticides remain in ethanol by-products that are used for agronomic practice.

C. STATEMENTS WE FEEL SHOULD NOT BE ON THE SEED TAG/BAG:

- E-fate related statements, for example: This product contains X that is known to leach through soil into groundwater under certain conditions as result of agricultural use. Use of this product in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination.
- Regardless of the type of application (seed treatment, soil or foliar), do not apply more than a total of **X** or (**Y** gram) (active ingredient) per acre per crop season.
- “mg a.i./seed” in the use directions and seed bag tag: “if seed size is **XX** seeds/lb. (**XXY** lbs./U), **ZZ** fl oz. a.i./cwt. would provide **YY** mg a.i./seed.”
- After seeds have been planted, do not enter or allow worker entry into treated areas during the restricted entry interval (REI) of X hours. Exception: Once seeds are planted and covered by soil or other planting media, the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) allows workers to enter the treated area without restriction.